



Application No.: 10/815,829  
Art Unit: 3679

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### **IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1. (*Currently Amended*) A barrier system for use with pre-existing fence posts comprising:

a plurality of first fence panels, each first fence panel having a first end and a second end;

said first end of each first fence panel including an elongated post receiving slot and a pair of substantially identical elongated connector projections extending parallel to said post receiving slot;

a plurality of second fence panels, each second fence panel having a first end and a second end;

said first end of each second fence panel including an elongated post receiving slot and a pair of substantially identical elongated connector slots extending parallel to said elongated post receiving slot, said pair of connector slots configured for sliding, interlocking engagement with the connector projections of one of said first fence panels;

wherein when said pair of connector projections of [[a]]said first fence panel slidably, matingly interlock with said pair of connector slots of [[a]] said second fence panel an elongated cavity is formed between the elongated post receiving slot of said first end of said first fence panel and the elongated post receiving slot of said first end of said second

fence panel, said elongated cavity being dimensioned and configured to circumscribe an exterior surface of a pre-existing fence post; and

said second end of each said first fence panel and said second end of each said second fence panel ~~being designed and configured to be interconnected~~ having an overlapping distal end portion configured differently than said first ends and providing a substantially planar flush fitting engagement therebetween;

whereby a barrier system is formed by said plurality of first and second fence panels being connected alternately by said first ends and said second ends, respectively, with the elongated cavities formed by the post receiving slots of the connected first ends of said first and second fence panels fitted around pre-existing fence posts.

Claims 2-4. (Canceled)

Claim 5. (*Previously Presented*) The barrier system according to claim 1, wherein each panel is horizontally corrugated, each panel including a plurality of horizontal corrugations.

Claim 6. (*Withdrawn*) The barrier system according to claim 1 wherein each panel presents a flat planar surface.

Claim 7. (*Withdrawn*) The barrier system according to claim 6, including a vertically oriented reinforcing strut disposed on said flat planar surface.

Claim 8. (*Original*) The barrier system according to claim 1, including a post cap releasably secured to each of said pre-existing fence posts.

Claim 9. (*Currently Amended*) A barrier system for use with pre-existing fence posts comprising:

- a plurality of first fence panels, each first fence panel having a first end, a second end and a height;

- a plurality of second fence panels, each second fence panel having a first end, a second end and a height, said height of each said second fence panel being substantially equal to said height of each said first fence panel;

- a first releasable attachment structure disposed on said first end of each said first fence panel and said first end of each said second fence panel;

- said first releasable attachment structure comprising a pair of substantially identical elongated connector projections and wherein said connector projections extend approximately one-half the height of said first fence panel and said second fence panel;

- a second releasable attachment structure disposed on said first end of each said first fence panel and said first end of each said second fence panel;

- said second releasable attachment structure comprising a pair of substantially identical elongated connector slots and wherein said connector slots extend approximately one-half the height of said first fence panel and said second fence panel;

the first and second releasable attachment structures disposed on the first end of each said second fence panel being configured for sliding, interlocking engagement with the second and first releasable attachment structures, respectively, disposed on the first end of each said first fence panel;

said first end of each said first and second fence panels further including an elongated post receiving slot coextensive with the height of said first and second fence panels, respectively;

wherein when said first and second releasable attachment structures of said first end of [[a]] said first fence panel slidably, matingly interlock with the respective said second and first releasable attachment structures of said first end of [[a]] said second fence panel an elongated cavity is formed between the elongated post receiving slot of said first end of said first fence panel and the elongated post receiving slot of said first end of said second fence panel, said elongated cavity being coextensive with said height of said respective first fence panel and second fence panel, said elongated cavity being dimensioned and configured to circumscribe an exterior surface of a pre-existing fence post;

a plurality of post caps, each post cap being releasably securable to a pre-existing fence post; and

said second end of each said first fence panel and said second end of each said second fence panel ~~being designed and configured to be interconnected~~ having an overlapping distal end portion configured differently than said first ends and providing a substantially planar flush fitting engagement therebetween;

whereby a barrier system is formed by said plurality of first and second fence panels being connected alternately by said first ends and said second ends, respectively, with the cavities formed by the post receiving slots of the connected first ends of said first and second fence panels fitted around pre-existing fence posts.

Claims 10-11. (*Cancelled*)

Claim 12. (*Previously Presented*) The barrier system according to claim 9, wherein each panel is horizontally corrugated, each panel including a plurality of horizontal corrugations.

Claim 13. (*Withdrawn*) The barrier system according to claim 11 wherein each panel presents a flat planar surface.

Claim 14. (*Withdrawn*) The barrier system according to claim 13, including a vertically oriented reinforcing strut disposed on said flat planar surface.

Claim 15. (*Cancelled*)

Claim 16. (*Previously Presented*) The barrier system according to claim 9, wherein each panel is fabricated by molding.

Claim 17. (*Previously Presented*) The barrier system according to claim 9, including fasteners for attaching the second end of said first fence panel to a third fence panel.

Claim 18. (*Original*) The barrier system according to claim 17, including fasteners for attaching the second end of said second fence panel to a fourth fence panel.

Claim 19. (*New*) A barrier system for use with pre-existing fence posts, comprising:

a first fence panel having a first end and a second end;

a second fence panel having a first end and a second end;

a cavity formed in each said first end, whereby said first end of each panel is adapted to fit around a fence post;

means for releasably attaching each said first end of each panel thereby releasably securing the panels to the fence post;

each said second end having an overlapping distal end portion configured differently than each said first end and providing a substantially planar flush fitting engagement therebetween; and

means for releasably attaching each said overlapping end portion of each said panel, whereby adjacent fence panels can be altered in the amount of overlap to compensate for variations in distances between fence posts.